



JACKSON ON TAX COMPROMISE: DEMS RISK PERMANENT MINORITY STATUS □ Bush Tax Cuts Now Obama Tax Cuts

Washington, D.C. -- Congressman Jesse L. Jackson, Jr. made the following statement about the proposed compromise between the Obama Administration and Republican leaders on extending the Bush-era tax cuts.

Congressman Jackson said:

"I respect President Obama and understand the difficult position he is in. However, Democrats must oppose this tax cut compromise or risk being in a permanent minority. We'll keep getting 'shellacked.' We must stick to our core principles and fight Republican efforts to enrich the rich. Apparently they were only serious about cutting the deficit when it was on the backs of the unemployed and children who need food stamps. We capitulated too much in the majority, and now we're capitulating as if we're already in the minority. We're acting like inexperienced poker players who fold with a winning hand.

"We can't go from staying out of the bushes to pruning them.

"Republicans have promised budget-cutting measures in the new Congress that can only erode the social safety net. The money the nation needs for social services is in the tax breaks.

"Democrats of good conscience must reject the compromise. It turns the Bush tax cuts into the Obama tax cuts. It takes us from fighting the Republicans to being like them."

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